

REMARKS:

Claims 1-18 and 20-48 are currently pending. Claims 1, 2, 6, 8-13, 17, 24, 28-34, 36, 37, 39, 44 and 45 stand rejected. The Examiner's allowability of claims 18, 20-23 and 25-27, and his indication of allowability with respect to claims 3-5, 7, 14-16, 35, 38, 40-43 and 46-48, are gratefully acknowledged. It would appear that the Examiner also intended to allow claim 19, since this claim is dependent from an allowed claim (claim 18), and has not been rejected in the present Office Action.

Claims 2, 17, 40, 41, 44, 45 and 46 have been cancelled with this response. New claims 49, 50, 51 and 52 have been added with this response. New claim 49 contains the essential limitations of claim 46. New claim 50 contains the essential limitations of claim 3. New claim 51 contains the essential limitations of claim 14. New claim 52 contains the essential limitations of claim 42.

Numerous amendments have been made to the claims with this response in order to eliminate redundancies, make the claim terminology consistent, and otherwise lend greater clarity to the claims. No surrender of equivalents was intended with any of these amendments.

The Examiner's objection to claim 41 as being a duplicate of claim 40 is noted. Claim 41 has been cancelled with this response.

Reconsideration of the Examiner's rejection of claims 1-3, 5-10, 12, 13 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by WO 01/29652 (Fairclough et al.) is respectfully requested.

While Applicants do not necessarily agree with the Examiner's interpretation of Fairclough et al. or the legal conclusions the Examiner has drawn with respect to the rejected claims based on that interpretation, in order to advance the prosecution of the present application, the claims have been amended with this response so they are directed to the subject matter deemed allowable by the Examiner. It is thus respectfully submitted that the Examiner's

rejection has been rendered moot. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of the rejected claims in one or more continuing applications without prejudice.

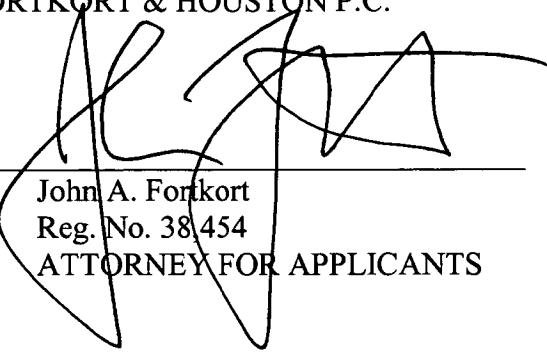
In light of the foregoing amendments, it would appear that the present application has now been placed into condition for allowance. However, should the Examiner determine that one or more grounds of rejection remains, Applicants respectfully solicit the courtesy of a telephone interview with the Examiner for the purposes of addressing any remaining infirmities in the claims.

Should the Examiner have any questions or desire clarification of any sort, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number listed below. Please reference Attorney Docket No. LYRN006US0.

A check for payment of the additional claim fees and a Fee Transmittal are enclosed herewith. It is believed no further fees are due with this transmission, however, should a further fee be due, or a credit be deemed appropriate, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct such fee, or to assign such credit, to Deposit Account No. 50-3694 of Fortkort & Houston P.C.

Respectfully submitted,

FORTKORT & HOUSTON P.C.

By: 

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